

**Addictive & Mental Disorders Division (AMDD)  
Montana's Action Plan for Co-Occurring Disorders  
Status Report for August - September 2007**

**Co-Occurring Policy Team**

- The next Policy Team meeting will be held on Thursday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Training/Presentations** (no activities reported during this period)

**COST (Co-Occurring Strategic Team)**

- Reviewed and made recommendations to Ken Minkoff and Chris Cline regarding their Annual Report. The final report will be distributed to the Policy Team on October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Final planning and coordination for the Change Agent & Policy Team meetings being held on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- Discussed how the Montana Plan, Change Agents and Montana Policy Team will engage Montana's Chippewa Cree Tribe of Rocky Boy into the current system changes. The tribe recently participated in the SAMHSA Policy Academy on Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Disorders for Native Americans. Jonathan Windy Boy is the team leader for the group.
- Designed and developed an orientation manual for new and former Policy Team members. This was a follow-up request from the membership in July.
- Reviewed and approved the final draft of COD Endorsement Guidelines for Policy Team and Change Agents to review at the October meeting.

**Change Agent/Active Work Group Reports:**

**CHANGE AGENTS:**

The next Change Agent meeting is scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**DATA WORK GROUP:**

Eric Higginbotham, Team Leader and Ken Taylor, AMDD staff facilitated the August meeting. Also in attendance were Alison Hwong, Bobbi Renner and Mary Letang. The work group met to finalize information to be included in quarterly reports to the executive directors and Change Agents. A copy of the 08/24/07 Data Work Group Meeting Minutes are available upon request.

**MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS WORK GROUP:**

The work group membership finalized and made available to 28 Mental Health and Chemical Dependency providers a survey to complete regarding the current Co-Occurring Initiative. The survey will provide recommendations to the Policy Team and COST. The final results will be made available following the October Policy Team meeting.

**EASTERN REGIONAL CHANGE AGENT GROUP:**

The Eastern region met during the month of August with Sandra Lippy as team leader. The group welcomed the new Change Agent, Janeil Anderson from the Billings Community Crisis Center. The work group reviewed and discussed the COD Endorsement Guidelines. The Core Competency group is working on training needs and tools for training modules.

**TRAINING, SCOPE OF PRACTICE, CORE COMPETENCIES:**

The work group held a meeting with Emery Jones and Deb Sanchez as team leaders in early August. The group discussed training recommendations from the Scope/Core Competency work group. The need for training modules for ongoing education of staff was identified in their action plan. The group will discuss the progress on the activities at the October 3<sup>rd</sup> Change Agent meeting.